

Board of Health Meeting – April 4th, 2018
Division of Substance Abuse and Prevention
Health and Human Service Department of Lowell

Substance Abuse Coordinator

Initiatives

- Continued contact with Chair of Mayor's Opioid Epidemic Crisis Task Force to discuss how the Substance Abuse Coordinator can be of service for the Task Force meetings/meeting prep. Discussed potential for new initiatives and subcommittees, and has begun scheduling first meetings for Data and Social Media Subcommittees.
- Looking into events surrounding spike in overdoses the weekend of Valentine's Day (over 20 overdoses within a three days) with the UML researchers and coordinators of the PDMP grant.

Attended the following meetings and events to build upon relationships, strengthen understanding of resources, and facilitate open communication regarding needs areas for the substance use community

- 3/6, 4/3 Greater Lowell Health Alliance (GLHA) Substance Abuse Prevention Task Force
- 3/6 Meeting with new Community Health Working from Lowell Community Health Center
- 3/9 District Attorney's Opioid Task Force Meeting
- 3/9 Met with PFS Coordinator and Lowell House 18-24y/o case manager to discuss resources pertinent to younger age group
- 3/21 Substance Abuse and Prevention Division held an Unwanted Medication Take Back event
- 3/26 Mayor's Opioid Epidemic Crisis Task Force

Attended the following initiatives for Smart Policing Initiative (SPI) and Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) Grants

- 3/21 SPI Conference Call
- 3/28, 4/4 PDMP Meeting
- 3/19 Reviewed CO-OP Encounter and Clinical Recovery Specialist Intake forms with UML research partners
- 3/28 PDMP Meeting

Community Opioid Outreach Program (CO-OP)/Clinical Recovery Specialists/CO-OP Supervisor

- Built relationships throughout the month with the local substance abuse treatment providers
- 3/12 Interview with Middlesex Community College students
- 3/19 Clinical Recovery Specialist Kylee Simao started at the Health Department
- 3/20 CO-OP Supervisor position went in front of the City Council – will be on the agenda again on 4/3 for open discussion
- 3/22 CO-OP officially moved into their new office space at 291 Summer Street, Lowell.
- 3/26 Clinical Recovery Specialist Laura Harrison started at the Health Department
- 3/27 CO-OP Supervisors Meeting
- 4/2 CO-OP Meeting

Massachusetts Opioid Abuse Prevention Collaborative (MOAPC)

Initiatives

- Life Skills Training – Facilitated and ran 4th Grade elementary Life Skills Training classes at a Billerica school 3 days per week during March. Collaborated with Billerica teachers on adapting curriculum to fit with existing health class standards. **2 hours/session; Wed, Thur., Fri. in March 2018**
- Completed prerequisite hours to qualify for Train the Trainer Prevention trainer certification training. **Completed in March 2018**
- Worked with Westford Public school to support, facilitate, and coordinate a High School level Life Skills Training. **Training scheduled for April 13th**
- Initiated contact with Veteran's supports services (out of the Bedford VA) to begin addressing needs of veterans in Lowell and surrounding towns **March 16th, ongoing**
- Unwanted medication/sharps take back event **March 21**

Meetings/Trainings Attended

- Greater Lowell Health Alliance Substance Abuse Prevention Task Force (Chair)(3/6)
- Massachusetts Opioid Abuse Prevention Collaborative /Substance Abuse Prevention Collaborative cluster meeting (3/20)
- District Attorney Marian Ryan Opiate Task Force (3/9)
- Weekly phone meetings with BSAS (Bureau of Substance Addiction Services) Grant Coordinator
- Attended administrative trainings for *Drug Free Greater Lowell* website (ongoing)
- Began work with UMass Lowell Public Health intern on the MOAPC grant (start date 1/22, ongoing)
- Presented on prevention and community engagement at the Interdisciplinary Conference hosted by the Billerica Interfaith Association (3/15)
- Webinar: Teen Technology Use - A prevention Perspective (3/19)
- Greater Lowell Health Alliance Steering Committee Meeting (3/20)
- Northeast Peer Recovery Learning community meeting to coordinate services in Lowell (ongoing)
- "Sustainability Planning" State (BSAS) conference call (3/21)
- Greater Lowell Health Alliance Mental Health Task Force (3/28)

Partnerships for Success (PFS)

Initiatives:

- Middlesex Community College (MCC): On March 7th members of the PFS Team presented to a class of 15 freshmen at MCC. The presentation was based on the dangers of sharing prescription drugs as well as how the opioid crisis has impacted their community.
- Middlesex Community College (MCC): On March 12th, members of the PFS team presented material on the social and psychological effects of prescription drug misuse to a class of 18 freshmen.
- YWCA: On March 12th, members of the PFS team presented material to 4 Peer Leaders on the risks associated with prescription drug misuse.
- LHS Students: On March 16th and April 6th, we held meetings with the PFS student group from Lowell High School. During this meeting, students created a story board for the social media ad they will be creating. The group plans to create posters and hang them strategically in the school to raise awareness related to the dangers of prescription drug use. The students also plan to disseminate BSAS approved packets on opioid misuse to their teams this during the first week of spring athletics.
- Teen BLOCK: On March 26th, in order to further build capacity and understand youth attitudes towards prescription drug use, a focus group was conducted with teens in the program.

Outreach (with the intent of partnering moving forward):

- Coalition for a Better Acre (CBA): To build capacity with community agencies, a meeting took place on March 21st at CBA. Included in the meeting were ways we can partner and collaborate moving forward.
- Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association (CMAA): In order to build capacity within the Cambodian community, a meeting was held on March 23rd to discuss future partnerships and collaboration.

Meetings/Trainings Attended:

- District Attorney Opiate Task Force- 3/9/18
- Meeting with John Dunn (Lowell House)- 3/9/18
- Billerica Interdisciplinary Conference- 3/15/18
- MOAPC- 3/20/18
- Mayor's Opioid Task Force- 3/26/18
- Violence Prevention Coalition-3/27/18
- GLHA Mental Health Task Force-3/28/18, 4/5/18
- Monthly PFS Meeting- 3/28/18
- GLHA S.U.P Task Force- 3/6/18, 4/3/18
- Planning Meeting with Christ Jubilee Church- 4/4/18
- Drug Story Theater- 4/6/18